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## SHORTCOMINGS IN TRAINING, DISTRIBUTION OF USSR AGRICULTURAL SPECIALISTS

The "Gorodniy Veleten'" Sovkhoz, Khersonskaya Oblast, employs a total of 38 graduates of labor reserve schools, including 20 from the Meshchovsk Special Agricultural School and 18 graduates of the Trubchevsk Special Agricultural School. Almost none of these graduates were employed according to their specialties. Due to some mistake, the sovkhoz had received a much larger number of trained specialists than required and had been obliged to put them to work as ordinary farm laborers. Requests for transfer addressed to the oblast administration of labor reserves and the Ministry of Labor Reserves proved fruit-

The above is not the only example of thoughtless distribution of agricultural specialists. The 1952 graduates of the Meshchovsk Agricultural School were distributed as follows: In the absence of vacancies, many were sent to work in the "Gorodniy Veleten'" Sovkhoz, as mentioned before. The Sovkhoz imeni Bagirov in the Azerbaydzhan SSR received a total of 107 graduates. As as result, most of them could not be used according to their abilities.

However, it is not just a matter of wrong distribution of agricultural labor specialists. Another mistake is made by the schools in that they give incorrect and vague titles to their graduates. The graduation certificate gives the title "senior worker." However, no such rank exists in the sovkhozes. They do not know how to utilize people with such a rank. Rather than assign the young workers to responsible jobs, they force them to do any kind of work.

In agricultural schools, the students study for 4 years. They acquire specialized knowledge, comparable to the study program of an agricultural tekhnikum. However, in the agricultural schools more time is devoted to practical training than in the tekhnikums.

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The Ministry of Labor Reserves, which should protect the interests of its trainees, has not taken any steps to prevent them from being utilized as ordinary farm laborers in various jobs, instead of being employed in their own specialties. In September 1951, the ministry received a letter from a group of young clericulturists of the Sovkhoz imeni Petrovskiy, Nikolayevskaya Oblast. The young workers complained that they were not being employed in their proper capacities. Kirpichnikov, Chief of the State Inspection of Labor Reserves, transmitted the complaint to the Ministry of State Farms and requested that immediate steps be taken to remedy the situation. A reply was received after 3 months, saying the workers were properly employed. A second letter from the workers, stating that the situation had not improved, had no effect either. During a period of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  years, seven letters were addressed to the Ministry of Labor Reserves, without any results.

The wrong distribution of graduates of agricultural schools is due partly to the fact that during the process of training the requirements of sovkhozes and MTS for certain kinds of specialists are not taken into consideration. The Ministry of Labor Reserves has placed the emphasis on the training of agronomists, olericulturists, and horticulturists, and has neglected other skills which are sometimes more in demand. For example, among the graduates of agricultural schools in 1952 there were only 66 sector mechanics, which are badly needed. The same thing will happen in 1953. There is a great demend for mechanical experts, especially those with a wide range of mechanical skills, but no training is provided for them.

There is also a shortage of brigade leaders for cattle-raising farms. During 1952, not a single livestock specialist was graduated from a labor reserve school, nor will there be any in 1953.

In connection with the irrigation of large areas of the USSR, it is important to train specialists in land development. There is already a shortage of hydrotechnicians, instructors in irrigation techniques, and other land development specialists, who are responsible for the success of irrigation work. Mass training of such specialists has not yet been organized.

Another problem which merits attention is the fact that until now labor reserve school have graduated their students at the beginning of September, when the agricult all season is almost at an end end the basic work has been finished. It would be more practical to have the students graduate early in spring so that they could enter production sooner and be utilized better.

Training, distribution, and utilization of agricultural personnel have many shortcomings. The Ministry of Labor Reserves, the Ministry of State Farms, and the Ministry of Agriculture should take immediate steps to improve the situation.

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